



**ACAC Grants Committee (GC)
(aka Arlington Cultural Council)
July 2020 Minutes**

June 13, 2020, 7:35-8:40pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom due to COVID 19

Present: Nick Castellano, Becky Holmes-Farley, Co-Chair and Corresponding Secretary; Heidi Kendig, Treasurer; Susan Larson, Recording Secretary (joined at 8:00 p.m.); Scott Samenfeld, Publicity Coordinator; Jeff Timperi, Co-Chair

Guests: Andrew Conway and Emily Reynolds

MINUTES

1. **MEETING INTRODUCTION:** Jeff Timperi confirmed that everyone had access, introduced the remote meeting and read the online meeting instructions from the Town.
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Emily Reynolds was briefly introduced and indicated that she is relatively new to the Town of Arlington and has a background in grants administration and previously held a position as program officer at the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
3. **VOTE ON JUNE MINUTES:** The June Minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the Minutes and it was seconded and approved unanimously. 5-0-0
4. **TREASURER REPORT:** There was a discussion about the placement of the Treasurer documents within Dropbox. They are now found in the Grant Cycle folder.

As was decided last month, MCC was consulted and provided the following information regarding how to handle the request to pay the Craft Ensemble grantee the checks for both herself and one of her musicians.

- In consultation with our municipal officer we may elect to pay separate checks to the vendors for a grantee if they provide a separate W9. If we do so, we are responsible for informing any recipient the following: if the checks they receive total more than \$600 that they will receive a 1099 and they will be responsible for the taxes.
- The MCC was also asked if we could, should we choose, decide to have a policy to only pay the grantee the full amount of any awarded direct grant and have them be

responsible for paying their vendors. The MCC did not specifically respond to this question but, rather, directed us to the regulations.

There was some support for considering the above policy but there was also opposition so no vote was sought on this.

5. **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT** – Becky reported that she fielded potential new member inquiries, arranged for the Select Board hearing of a new member and Corresponded with the MCC regarding grant payment questions which arose at the last meeting as referenced in paragraph 4.

Susan arrived

6. **PUBLICITY UPDATE:** Scott reported that there has not been much publicity because so few events are happening. He reiterated his request that the Cultural Council Facebook page be utilized for publicity.
7. **GRANTEE UPDATES:**

- a. **Cyrus Dallin Painting Restoration:** the painting is done and hanging in the museum and a modification has been submitted to be voted on. The modification proposes plan to unveil and present details regarding historical significance of the piece. There will be three presenters and ACMI will make a cohesive video for posting in early to mid-September. The video will be left online so that it may be accessed in the future, as well.

A motion was made to approve the modification, it was seconded and was approved unanimously. 6-6-0

- b. **Roger Tinknell Beatles and Beyond Concert** was performed with the support of the Council on Aging. About 30 people signed up but only about a dozen attended the performance. However, one of the attendees was moved to write afterwards that she and her son had really enjoyed the performance and that they were especially grateful for it since so many library and usual summer concerts have been cancelled this year. The event was well publicized. Scott reminded everyone that we should try to have grantees go to our Facebook page and publicize their events there.
 - c. **Maitreyee Chakraborty, Tagore's Love Letters to Mother Earth** continues to plan to have her concert with the assistance of the Robbins Library, but it will be on FaceBook Live rather than through Zoom.
 - d. **Ben Rudnick** plans to be in touch with the Board of Health and is still hoping to proceed with his concert live at Menotomy Rocks Park.

- e. **Arlington Authors Salon:** They liked the idea of retaining the money for the cancelled performance for the payment of another author and have decided to specifically seek an Author of Color.
- f. **Kalliope Reed Quintet** – Although they have completed the grant that we awarded, it is interesting to learn that they are performing a number of concerts to benefit local organizations such as the Regent Theater. The first concert, was performed by just a duo and one member attended and reported that it was fabulous.
- g. **Ben Rudnick** – on track for his outdoor concert at Menotomy Rocks, he is checking all the requirements and plans a Zoom concert.

8. **Discussion and Voting on Grantee Modification Requests:**

- a. Cyrus Dallin Art Museum Painting Restoration – Heather Leavell (Becky): redesigned project. The painting has been restored and is hanging. But the second part of the project was going to be an opening with historical talks. This talk will now be a combination of prerecorded lecture and live zoom with coordination from ACMI. There are good publicity plans for this event, which is targeted for September. The video will be accessible in the future. Unanimously approved (6 in favor)
- b. Craft Ensemble (Scott)

9. **Discuss Letter of Interest from Potential New Member**, Andrew Conway and VOTE on membership: Unanimously approved (6 in favor). Andrew will go to the Select Board next.

10. **Grant-writing Workshop Update** Heidi and Jeff. No update at the moment, but we are now targeting August for a launch. The intention is to be able to point to our funding priorities. We are hoping to record the webinar so it is available for later viewing.

11. **Funding Priorities for 2021** – Jeff

We haven't heard anything from MCC about a budget for next year. We are preparing for a potential decrease in funding. We will form an offline committee to work on funding priorities for next year, whether we want to give guidance for projects. We should be providing caution for large live performances, etc. in light of COVID. People should only apply for what they really need, especially in light of a potential decrease. We typically receive our award allotment in late summer or early fall.

Note: Becky was absent for agenda items 7g – 11 due to technical difficulties

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Susan Larson, Recording Secretary with Rebecca Holmes-Farley

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Maitreyee Chakraborty, Tagore's Love Letters, Friday, July 24th, 7:00 p.m. Facebook Live